

[22 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) As per the information furnished by the Mines Managements under statutory requirements to the Directorate General of Mines Safety, Dhanbad, there is no mine in public and private sector which is facing slow death from occupational diseases like asbestosis, silicosis, lysinosis, pneumoconiosis and other dust related diseases.

(b) Measures to safeguard workers against occupational diseases have been prescribed in the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder.

(c) The weekly earnings of worker in coal mines is Rs. 156/- and that of the metal mine, worker is Rs. 931/- only.

Amendment to the Mines Act

2949. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether recent deaths in the mines of Dhanbad is an eye opener to bring more improvements in the fields of mining through amendments in the Mines Act;

(b) whether Government are also contemplating to bring some key changes in the Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) The Mines Act, 1952 and the rules and regulations framed thereunder provides for safety to the workers working in the Mines. Review of these legislations is a continuous process and amendments in the laws are made from time to time depending upon the result of such review keeping in view the changes in technology and the safety of workers working in mines.